

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for processing a document, comprising:

5 providing at least one behavior document including processing instructions;

accepting an incoming document;

10 reading a personality document, the personality document including behavior document selection instructions for selecting a behavior document based on the incoming document;

selecting a behavior document using the personality document behavior document selection instructions and the incoming document; and

15 processing the incoming document according to the processing instructions in the selected behavior document.

2. The method of Claim 1 wherein:

the personality document is a XML document; and

the selected behavior document is a XML document.

20 3. The method of Claim 1, wherein the selected behavior document processing instructions further include incoming document to working document translation instructions.

25 4. The method of Claim 3, wherein the selected behavior document processing instructions further include:

working document to outgoing document translation instructions; and

30 transmitting instructions for transmitting the outgoing document via a communication network.

5. The method of Claim 1, further comprising transforming the incoming document into an incoming software object.

6. The method of Claim 5, wherein the selected behavior
document processing instructions further include invoking a
5 document processing software object.

7. A method for processing a document received from a client
via a communication network, comprising:

10 providing at least one behavior document including
processing instructions;

providing at least one translation document;

receiving an incoming document from the client via the
communication network;

15 reading a personality document, the personality
document including:

behavior document selection instructions for
selecting a behavior document based on the incoming document; and

translation document selection instructions for
selecting a translation document based on the incoming document;

20 selecting a translation document using the personality
document translation document selection instructions and the
incoming document;

translating the incoming document into a working
document using the selected translation document;

25 selecting a behavior document using the personality
document behavior document selection instructions and the
incoming document; and

processing the working document according to the
processing instructions in the selected behavior document.

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8. The method of Claim 7, wherein the selected behavior
document processing instructions further include transmitting
instructions for transmitting the working document via the
communication network.

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9. The method of Claim 7, wherein the selected behavior document processing instructions further include:

5 working document to outgoing document translation instructions; and

transmitting instructions for transmitting the outgoing document via the communication network.

10 10. The method of Claim 7, further comprising transforming the working document into a working software object.

11. The method of Claim 7, further comprising transforming the incoming document into an incoming software object.

15 12. The method of Claim 7, wherein the selected behavior document processing instructions further include invoking a document parser.

20 13. The method of Claim 7 wherein:

the serving document is a XML document; and

the selected behavior document is a XML document.

14. The method of Claim 7 wherein:

25 the incoming document is a XML document;

the working document is a XML document; and

the selected translation document is a XSLT document.

15. A data processing system adapted to process documents received from a client via a communication network, comprising:

30 a processor; and

a memory operably coupled to the processor and having program instructions stored therein, the processor being operable to execute the program instructions, the program instructions including:

personality instructions, the personality
instructions including:

5 receiving an incoming document sent by the
client via the communications network;

invoking a director, the director containing
instructions, the instructions including selecting processing
instructions for the incoming document; and

10 invoking a dispatcher, the dispatcher
containing instructions, the instructions including processing
the incoming document according to the selected processing
instructions.

15 16. The data processing system of Claim 15, the processing
instructions further including transmitting a document to the
client via the communication network.

20 17. The data processing system of Claim 16, the processing
instructions further including transmitting a document to a
server via the communication network.

18. A data processing system adapted to process a document,
comprising:

25 a processor; and

a memory operably coupled to the processor and having
program instructions stored therein, the processor being operable
to execute the program instructions, the program instructions
including:

30 accepting an incoming document;

reading a personality document, the personality
document including behavior document selection instructions for
selecting a behavior document based on the incoming document, the
behavior document including processing instructions;

5 selecting a behavior document using the personality document behavior document selection instructions and the incoming document; and

processing the incoming document according to the processing instructions in the selected behavior document.

19. The data processing system of Claim 18 wherein:

10 the personality document is a XML document; and
the selected behavior document is a XML document.

15 20. The data processing system of Claim 18, wherein the selected behavior document processing instructions further include incoming document to working document translation instructions.

20 21. The data processing system of Claim 18, wherein the selected behavior document processing instructions further include:

25 working document to outgoing document translation instructions; and
transmitting instructions for transmitting the outgoing document via a communication network.

22. The data processing system of Claim 18, the program instructions further including transforming the incoming document into an incoming software object.

30 23. The data processing system of Claim 18, wherein the selected behavior document processing instructions further include invoking a document parser.

35 24. A data processing system adapted to process a document sent from a client via a communication network, comprising:

a processor; and

5 a memory operably coupled to the processor and having program instructions stored therein, the processor being operable to execute the program instructions, the program instructions including:

receiving an incoming document sent by the client via the communication network;

10 reading a personality document, the personality document including:

behavior document selection instructions for selecting a behavior document based on the incoming document, the behavior document including processing instructions; and

15 translation document selection instructions for selecting a translation document based on the incoming document;

20 selecting a translation document using the personality document translation document selection instructions and the incoming document;

translating the incoming document into a working document using the selected translation document;

25 selecting a behavior document using the personality document behavior document selection instructions and the incoming document; and

processing the working document according to the processing instructions in the selected behavior document.

25. The data processing system of Claim 24, wherein the
30 selected behavior document processing instructions further include transmitting instructions for transmitting the working document via the communication network.

5 26. The data processing system of Claim 24, wherein the selected behavior document processing instructions further include:

10 working document to outgoing document translation instructions; and

15 transmitting instructions for transmitting the outgoing document via the communication network.

10 27. The data processing system of Claim 24, the program instructions further comprising transforming the working document into a working software object.

15 28. The data processing system of Claim 24, the program instructions further comprising transforming the incoming document into an incoming software object.

20 29. The data processing system of Claim 24, wherein the selected behavior document processing instructions further include invoking a document parser.

25 30. The data processing system of Claim 24 wherein:

 the serving document is a XML document; and

 the selected behavior document is a XML document.

30 31. The data processing system of Claim 24 wherein:

 the incoming document is a XML document;

 the working document is a XML document; and

 the selected translation document is a XSLT document.

35 32. A computer program product embodying computer program instructions for execution by a computer, the computer program instructions comprising:

personality instructions, the personality instructions including:

5 receiving an incoming document sent by the client via the communications network;

invoking a director, the director containing instructions including selecting processing instructions for the incoming document; and

10 invoking a dispatcher, the dispatcher containing instructions including processing the incoming document according to the selected processing instructions.

15 33. The computer program product of Claim 32, the processing instructions further including transmitting a document to the client via the communication network.

20 34. The computer program product of Claim 32, the processing instructions further including transmitting a document to a server via the communication network.

35. A computer program product embodying computer program instructions for execution by a computer, the computer program instructions comprising:

25 accepting an incoming document;

reading a personality document, the personality document including behavior document selection instructions for selecting a behavior document based on the incoming document, the behavior document containing processing instructions;

30 selecting a behavior document using the personality document behavior document selection instructions and the incoming document; and

processing the incoming document according to the processing instructions in the selected behavior document.

36. The computer program product of Claim 35 wherein:
the personality document is a XML document; and
5 the selected behavior document is a XML document.

37. The computer program product of Claim 35, wherein the
selected behavior document processing instructions further
include incoming document to working document translation
10 instructions.

38. The computer program product of Claim 35, wherein the
selected behavior document processing instructions further
include:

15 working document to outgoing document translation
instructions; and

transmitting instructions for transmitting the outgoing
document via a communication network.

20 39. The computer program product of Claim 35, the computer
program instructions further comprising transforming the incoming
document into an incoming software object.

40. The computer program product of Claim 35, wherein the
25 selected behavior document processing instructions further
include invoking a document parser.

41. A computer program product embodying computer program
instructions for execution by a computer, the computer program
30 instructions comprising:

receiving an incoming document sent by the client via
the communication network;

reading a personality document, the personality
document including:

5 behavior document selection instructions for selecting a behavior document based on the incoming document, the behavior document including processing instructions; and

translation document selection instructions for selecting a translation document based on the incoming document;

10 selecting a translation document using the personality document translation document selection instructions and the incoming document;

translating the incoming document into a working document using the selected translation document;

15 selecting a behavior document using the personality document behavior document selection instructions and the incoming document; and

processing the working document according to the processing instructions in the selected behavior document.

20 42. The computer program product of Claim 41, wherein the selected behavior document processing instructions further include transmitting instructions for transmitting the working document via the communication network.

25 43. The computer program product of Claim 41, wherein the selected behavior document processing instructions further include:

working document to outgoing document translation instructions; and

30 transmitting instructions for transmitting the outgoing document via the communication network.

44. The computer program product of Claim 41, the computer program instructions further comprising transforming the working document into a working software object.

5 45. The data processing system of Claim 41, the computer program instructions further comprising transforming the incoming document into an incoming software object.

10 46. The computer program product of Claim 41, wherein the selected behavior document processing instructions further include invoking a document parser.

15 47. The computer program product of Claim 41 wherein:
 the serving document is a XML document; and
 the selected behavior document is a XML document.

20 48. The computer program product of Claim 41 wherein:
 the incoming document is a XML document;
 the working document is a XML document; and
 the selected translation document is a XSLT document.